

DRAFT 2/18/04

Vision Plan, Advocate, Evaluate

To advocate for a system that supports persons impacted by mental disorders on their journeys to achieve the highest quality of life possible by promoting evidence-based, cost-effective, individualized mental health services.

Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council
February 11, 2004
SeaTac Holiday Inn, SeaTac

Approved_____

In attendance: Joann Freimund, Chair, Graydon Andrus, Jeanette Barnes, Roger Bauer, Chuck Benjamin, BJ Cooper, Rick Crozier, Danny Eng, Diane Eschenbacher, John Fisher, Alan Himsl, Doug Johnson, Dinah Martin, Eleanor Owen, Barb Putnam.

Absent (excused): Lou Colwell, Candace Manke, Sondra Martin, Bonnie Scott, Janet SooHoo, Paula Zamudio.

Absent (unexcused): Kelly Egan, David King, Judith Stormbreaker, Dorothy Trueblood.

MHD Staff: Karl Brimmer, Kathy Burns Peterson, Katie Weaver-Randall.

Guests: Donna Obermeier.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Joann Freimund, Chair. The agenda was reviewed and introductions were made.

Review of January 14, 2004 meeting minutes:

The minutes from the January 14, 2004 meeting were amended, approved and accepted. MHPAC minutes are posted on the MHD website:
<http://www.wa.gov/DSHS/mentalhealth/>

Review of pending action items:

1. Ethnic Minority, Older Adult, Legislative Subcommittees are requested to establish their meeting schedule for 2004 and submit this information to Kathy Peterson.
Completed.
2. The Actuarial Report will be distributed to the Planning Council when it is available at the end of November. **Completed, in meeting packet.**
3. Kathy Peterson will follow up to the question on getting funding from the Medical Assistance Administration for Medicare/Medicaid crossover claims. **In the absence of specific information, this action item will be deleted.**

4. Karie Castleberry will provide an update on the Access to Care standards to Planning Council members. **Completed, in meeting packet.**
5. A meeting will be set up with the MHD and Medical Assistance Administration to discuss funding for interpreters for mental health services. **Steve Wish, Steve Norsen, RSN rep (Chuck?) meet and report back to Planning Council in March.**
6. Kathy Peterson will provide a copy of the JLARC presentation slides to the Planning Council members. **Completed, in meeting packet.**
7. Katie Weaver-Randall will look at mortality rates for persons served by the public mental health system and provide information to the Planning Council at a future meeting. **Agenda item, Katie will bring handouts.**
8. Chuck Benjamin will draft a letter to the Washington Community Mental Health Council in support of the Resource Guide workshop proposal. **Completed via email.**
9. Josselyn Winslow will draft a “Way to Go” award letter to be sent to Mark Porter for his article on memory loss screening in the Bellingham Herald. **Pending.**
10. The Planning Council will send a letter to Secretary Braddock requesting that inclusion of mental health services in the Medicaid Integration Partnership be delayed. **Completed, in meeting packet.**
11. Kathy Peterson will pursue a decision on the feasibility of including a link to the Town Hall on the Planning Council section of the MHD website. **Pending.**
12. All the Subcommittees are requested to discuss goals and a work plan for the Planning Council for the coming year in preparation for discussion at the February meeting. **Agenda item.**

“Way To Go” awards

There were no nominations for a “Way to Go” award presented for consideration.

Review of Planning Council roster and membership

Joann Freimund reviewed the bylaws requirements for attendance at the Planning Council. Jean Pond has submitted a letter of resignation. Several members have had many absences, both excused and unexcused. The Planning Council will enforce the bylaws to terminate the membership of 3 unexcused absences, as it is a detriment to the performance of the council. Members also discussed the need to review excessive excused absences, and made a motion to revise the bylaws.

A motion was moved, seconded and passed to change the bylaws to review 3 excused absences in a calendar year by the Planning Council Chair and Vice-Chair with a

recommendation for further action. The bylaws will be submitted for consideration at the March Planning Council meeting.

Joann also presented three applications for members to represent MHPAC Subcommittees, consistent with the bylaws.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to appoint Doug Johnson (Sexual Minorities), Rick Crozier (Older Adults), Andy Pascua (Ethnic Minorities) as members of the Planning Council as representatives of their Subcommittees.

Joann also presented three applications for members to fill vacant MHPAC positions.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to appoint Kathy Peterson, Cathii Nash, and Eleanor Owen to the Planning Council.

Review of mental health mortality data

Katie Weaver-Randall reviewed the handouts she provided in response to the Planning Council request for data on mental health consumer mortality. Katie reviewed a summary of the 16-state study pilot study report, a fact sheet on consumer mortality prepared by HRSI for the state of Massachusetts, and Washington State data on causes of death by age for consumers served by the Mental Health Division. She asked for more specific direction from the Planning Council on the reasons for interest in this data. There was discussion about co-morbid mental health and physical health conditions, such as diabetes. One recommendation was to compare the data for mental health consumers compared to the general population by age, gender, race, and geographic distribution (including urban/rural). In addition, it may be helpful to have a better understanding of the circumstances that led to the consumer's death on a case-by-case basis. Mortality information could be used to provide training for front-line workers on signs and symptoms of illness in order to improve client care.

Katie summarized some steps that the Mental Health Division could take to analyze available data and prepare a one-page summary sheet for general information. It would help for the Planning Council to establish an ad-hoc committee to assist the Mental Health Division in this project.

Chuck Benjamin, John Fisher, Graydon Andrus, Diane Eschenbacher, and a representative of the Ethnic Minority Subcommittee volunteered to participate in an ad-hoc committee chaired by Katie Weaver-Randall to review mental health morbidity data.

Director's Report

Karl Brimmer provided an update on several projects currently in process in the Mental Health Division:

- Three Assistant Secretaries from DSHS: Children’s Administration, Health and Rehabilitative Services, and Juvenile Rehabilitation are meeting to better coordinate and integrate services for children. This is a unique effort with much intent to improve the delivery of services through a single department-wide vision, focusing on evidence-based practices. Barb Putnam, Jeanette Barnes, and a member of the Ethnic Minority Subcommittee are participating in this process, representing the Planning Council.
- Karl handed out the Cost Offsets and Client Outcomes Fact Sheet, which was prepared by the DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division in concert with the Mental Health Division. The study showed that persons who received publicly-funded mental health services had lower subsequent medical costs and a reduced risk of death compared to clients who did not receive mental health treatment. This is powerful information, which the Mental Health Division is using with Legislators and the Medical Assistance Administration to improve the delivery of mental health services as a way of reducing medical costs. There is a particular need for improving mental health services for clients on state-only programs such as GA-U.

The primary researchers on the DSHS Cost Offset Study will be invited to provide a presentation on the research design and next steps for policy discussions.

- Karl provided a handout with an update on Secretary Braddock’s Washington Medicaid Integration Partnership (WMIP). The Planning Council had written a letter of concern to Secretary Braddock that this project was ill-conceived, and was not presented to the Planning Council for consideration prior to implementation. The opportunity for partnership has been missed, which will result in unintended negative consequences. Karl stated that he would find out the status of the response to the letter to Secretary Braddock. He also added that he has a specific memory of presenting the project to the Planning Council a while back, while the project was still in the development stages. He appreciates the candid and professional dialog and discussion from this group and will continue to participate in this discussion.

Alice Lind, Manager of the WMIP, will be invited to make a presentation to the Planning Council at the March meeting.

Graydon pointed out that for consumers with high needs, the mental health provider is often the first choice for providing care coordination and case management. Chuck stated that approximately 3,800 of the 6,000 persons considered for this project are already being served by the RSN. The responsibility for providing mental health services for all covered lives still rests with the RSN, so taking funding away will have severe negative impact on funding levels for mental health services. Chuck’s recommendation was to leave the funding for providing mental health services with the RSN. In other states where this is being implemented, funding from the mental health system was not reduced to fund the integration project. BJ and John expressed concern that consumers were not involved in the decision about where to receive services, which disrupts the relationship with the service provider. Andy added that a

similar process for brokering language interpreter services in Yakima ultimately dismantled a system that worked. This has resulted in diminished care for clients.

- BJ asked Karl about the status of Clifford Thurston's meeting to discuss his proposed legislation for a Consumer Coalition with WPAS on February 18. She would like to have Planning Council participation in this discussion. Clifford Thurston will be invited to provide a presentation to the Legislative Subcommittee on this topic.

Review of Planning Council self-evaluation

Planning Council members were requested to complete the self-evaluation questionnaire and provide it to Kathy Peterson. She will tabulate the information for discussion at the March meeting.

Joann has reviewed the goals that the Planning Council set for itself last March, and the progress that has been to achieve those goals throughout the year. The Council discussed proposed changes to the Goals, and that these goal statements become the purpose statement in the Bylaws.

The Goal statement and Bylaws will be revised for consideration at the March meeting.

Program/Planning Subcommittee

The January meeting of the Subcommittee was cancelled due to snow. A conference call was held on February 2. The subcommittee developed a self-evaluation form for use by the Planning Council. Joann stated that an agenda item of the Subcommittee is to develop goals and a work plan for consideration by the Planning Council and all of the Subcommittees. Joann also participated in a conference call with the Center for Mental Health Services on a review of the draft federal guidelines for the 2005-2007 Mental Health Block Grant.

Older Adult Treatment and Services Subcommittee

The Subcommittee met on February 4. Andy Toulon and Tracy Adair gave a presentation on the Real Choices Grant. They will also be invited to the next meeting April 7 for additional discussion. The Subcommittee also invited Kathy Peterson to give a presentation on the new Mental Health Block Grant guidelines at the April 7 meeting.

Legislative Subcommittee

Graydon Andrus reviewed the January 20 Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee developed an updated brochure, which has been distributed to Legislators. Graydon provided a status report on current bills affecting mental health. In particular, the Subcommittee is continuing to support the Parity Legislation.

Sexual Minority Subcommittee

Doug Johnson reported that the Subcommittee has not met since the January Planning Council meeting.

Ethnic Minority Subcommittee

Andy Pascua reported that the Ethnic Minority Subcommittee met on February 6. They set their meeting dates for 2004 and set priorities for the year. They also discussed value-based practices as an alternative to evidence-based practices for rural communities. The feds will allow these practices until research proves otherwise. The Ethnic Minority Subcommittee invites community experts to provide input and consultation on relevant topics via videoconference. The Subcommittee also hosts a community forum, which is a process for developing a caucus on position statements.

Children/Youth Subcommittee:

Barb Putnam provided an overview of the meeting that was held on January 26. There was much discussion about the Assistant Secretary's Multi-System Project. Barb and Jeanette Barnes will share attendance in that group. The Subcommittee would like to have joint meetings with the Ethnic Minorities and Sexual Minorities Subcommittees, and in addition has requested that Kathy Peterson come to give a presentation on the new Mental Health Block Grant guidelines at their March 22 meeting.

2004 meeting dates:

The meeting dates for 2004 were reviewed. There are some changes from the previous schedule due to meeting room availability. All meetings will be at the SeaTac Holiday Inn from 9:30 to 3:30 :

January 14, 2004

February 11, 2004

March 10, 2004

May 5, 2004

June 9, 2004

August 11, 2004

September 15, 2004 All-Stakeholder Meeting

October 13, 2004

November 10, 2004

Next meeting: March 10, 2004 at the SeaTac Holiday Inn.

Contact LaToya Ware at (360) 902-0781 or holmela@dshs.wa.gov for travel at least two weeks in advance. Members who will be absent must notify Kathy Peterson or LaToya Ware five days before the meeting or the absence will be counted as "unexcused."

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Pending Action Items

1. A meeting will be set up with the MHD and Medical Assistance Administration to discuss funding for interpreters for mental health services. Steve Wish, Steve Norsen, RSN rep (Chuck?) will meet and report back to Planning Council in March.
2. Josselyn Winslow will draft a “Way to Go” award letter to be sent to Mark Porter for his article on memory loss screening in the Bellingham Herald.
3. Kathy Peterson will pursue a decision on the feasibility of including a link to the Town Hall on the Planning Council section of the MHD website.
4. The bylaws will be changed to review 3 excused absences in a calendar year by the Planning Council Chair and Vice-Chair with a recommendation for further action. The draft bylaws will be submitted for consideration at the March Planning Council meeting.
5. Kathy Peterson will prepare appointment letters for Doug Johnson (Sexual Minorities), Rick Crozier (Older Adults), Andy Pascua (Ethnic Minorities) as members of the Planning Council as representatives of their Subcommittees.
6. Kathy Peterson will prepare appointment letters for herself, Cathii Nash, and Eleanor Owen to the Planning Council.
7. Chuck Benjamin, John Fisher, Graydon Andrus, Diane Eschenbacher, and a representative of the Ethnic Minority Subcommittee will participate in an ad-hoc committee chaired by Katie Weaver-Randall to review mental health morbidity data.
8. The primary researchers on the DSHS Cost Offset Study will be invited to provide a presentation on the research design and next steps for policy discussions.
9. Alice Lind, Manager of the WMIP, will be invited to make a presentation to the Planning Council at the March meeting.
10. Planning Council members were requested to complete the self-evaluation questionnaire and provide it to Kathy Peterson. She will tabulate the information for discussion at the March meeting.
11. The Goal statement and Bylaws will be revised for consideration at the March meeting.